

United States Department of Agriculture
Agricultural Research Service
United States National Arboretum
3501 New York Avenue, N.E.
Washington, D.C. 20002



NATIVE PLANTS: LANDSCAPES IN BALANCE

18TH ANNUAL LAHR SYMPOSIUM 27 MARCH 2004

U.S. NATIONAL ARBORETUM 3501 NEW YORK AVE. NE WASHINGTON, D.C. 20002

Laura Beaty is the Propagation Committee co-Chair for the Virginia Native Plant Society (VNPS) Potomack chapter. Part of the team maintaining the VNPS propagation beds at Green Spring Garden Park since 1991, Laura is now in charge of the effort to grow the ferns, wildflowers, native trees and shrubs that supply the plants sold at the VNPS twice-yearly native plant sales. Her appreciation of native plants is rooted in her background in history, while her skills have been honed earning a degree in horticulture.

Dick Bir, a professional horticulturist for over 40 years, received the 2003 Tom Dodd Jr. Award of Excellence, the most prestigious award given for contributions to the advancement of native plants in horticulture. He has devoted a large part of his 25 years on the faculty of North Carolina State University to seeking better ways of growing native plants, advising extension agents and nursery growers. The author of *Growing and Propagating Showy Native Woody Plants* and President of the NC Exotic Pest Plant Council, he has great ideas about the best choices we can make as gardeners and growers.

Dale Hendricks has been growing and propagating plants since 1975. He co-founded North Creek Nursery in 1988, which he grew into an award winning nursery, renowned for its outstanding native plant production. Originally a student of philosophy,

Speakers

Dale is pleased that running an ecologically sound business is leading to a diverse array of new markets for his plants and groups eager to learn about native plants.

Donna Elizabeth House is a botanical consultant and researcher for Indigenous People’s environmental issues and policies. A member of the Navaho Nation, she is a key designer and ethnobotanical consultant to the Smithsonian National Museum of the American Indian in Washington, D.C. Her research is the basis for the remarkable landscape under construction at the NMAI that incorporates an Indigenous Peoples’ worldview and preserves a reverence for landscape, sky, and the People’s stories. She has worked for the Nature Conservancy’s Tribal Lands Protection Program and is on the Region 2 Fish and Wildlife Service Endangered Species Recovery Team.

Chris Ludwig serves as Chief Biologist for the Division of Natural Heritage within the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation, where he directs a team of botanists, zoologists, and ecologists in their quest to identify all the rare species populations and significant natural communities in Virginia. Formerly Staff Botanist, Chris spent many years traversing the state in search of rare plants and conservation sites. With professional experience in ornithology and ecology,

and currently tending his own ten acres, he brings a wealth of knowledge to the issues of preserving and conserving Virginia’s natural world.

Steve McKindley-Ward is the Horticulturist for the Anacostia Watershed Society, where he is working to build a greener community in the watershed of the Anacostia River. Through various grassroots efforts, he and the Society are attempting to reintroduce native plant communities able to naturally treat urban surface water, thereby improving the health of the Anacostia River and the Chesapeake Bay.

Katy Stein is an ardent native plant gardener who has a Ph.D. in immunology and worked at the NIH and FDA for 25 years before joining the biotechnology industry in 2002. She has lived and gardened in suburban Maryland for the last 20 years. Her home landscape has been a remarkable project, bringing together her strong aesthetic sense and desire to create a dynamic native plant haven, where a sunny street-side swale, a corner prairie, native plant specimens and shady plantings come together in a wonderfully livable space.

*Sponsored by the
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8:30 Registration & Early-Bird Plant Sale

9:30 Welcome and Introduction

9:40 The National Museum of the American Indian Honors an Indigenous Peoples' Philosophy of Landscape

Land has memory, and this memory is at the heart of the landscape being created around the Smithsonian National Museum of the American Indian. Learn from **Donna House** how the museum recognizes Indigenous Peoples' connection to the land; and how the building and landscape are designed to connect natural, spirit, animal and human worlds. See how the museum's millions of visitors will experience these connections in a Potowmack landscape that highlights the relationship of the earth's elements—rock, water, and plant—with those of the sky—sunrise, stars, and equinox.

10:45 Refreshment Break

11:00 The Many Dimensions of Plant Conservation in Virginia

Virginia's natural wealth is truly spectacular, stretching from the Appalachians to the Atlantic. Only through extensive public and private efforts are bits of this wealth preserved. **Chris Ludwig** will bring us up to date on the complementary scientific and conservation efforts that are underway to ensure the persistence of our native plant heritage. We will see how scientific exploration, documentation, land conservation, and management are working to best protect Virginia's natural ecosystems.

12:00 Lunch

1:00 Concurrent Sessions *Select one among:*

2:10 Scintillating Species and Captivating Clones Solve Garden Problems

Come along as **Dick Bir** guides us to the best plant choices for beautiful gardens infused with a sense of place and balance. Dick's recommendations are gleaned from his years working as an Extension Scientist, assisting in the development of a nursery industry based on propagating, not wild harvesting, native plants. We will delve into the native plant palette that can help us reduce pesticide use, replace invasives, and facilitate great garden design.

A. How to Make More of What You've Got!

Laura Beaty demonstrates techniques of plant propagation that will help you make more of the plants you and your friends already have. Laura will review seed propagation, cuttings, division, and other methods used successfully by her and the team of plant propagators that raise plants for the Potowmack Chapter of the Virginia Native Plant Society's twice-yearly plant sales.

B. Native Perennials Lead to a New Way of Doing Business

Discover how working with native plants led small business owner **Dale Hendricks** to a network of new clients and peers. Local businesses, green consumer groups, conservation societies, alternative energy buffs, and faith-based ecology teams are just a few of the natural allies coming together in sustainable business networks that promote progressive business practices and raise the bar for business ethics.

C. A Grassroots Stream Restoration Program

Steve McKindley-Ward presents simple and effective techniques that stabilize and restore streambanks ravaged by urban storm water flow. He will also give an update on the state of the Anacostia River, one of America's most urbanized rivers, and how local neighborhoods are making a difference in the future of this river.

D. Transforming a Typical Suburban Yard

She started with including "a few" native plants. Years of intense design and plantings followed, as did a 'nuisance-weed ticket' from the county and more than a few inquiries from her neighbors. Join **Katy Stein** as she reviews the processes and plant successes that transformed her suburban lot from a crummy lawn with beds of English ivy and Japanese holly into a diverse native plant habitat, beautiful and welcoming in all seasons.

Native Plant Sale:

Opens to the general public at 10 a.m.

Closes to all at 2 p.m.

Lunch is provided by

Friends of the National Arboretum

Registration Form

Registration fee: \$70 (FONA \$56)

Mail this registration form with payment to: U.S. National Arboretum, 3501 New York Ave. NE, Washington, DC 20002
Attn: Event Registration

No cancellation refunds after March 15, 2004

NAME

AFFILIATION

ADDRESS

TELEPHONE

EMAIL

Please select one concurrent session:

- ☐ How to Make More of What You've Got
☐ Native Perennials Lead to a New Way of Doing Business
☐ A Grassroots Stream Restoration Program
☐ Transforming a Typical Suburban Yard

Please check if you would like to receive:

- ☐ directions to the National Arboretum
☐ list of local accommodations
☐ vegetarian lunch

Proceeds support the Lahr Internship in the Fern Valley Native Plant Collection

For more information visit www.usna.usda.gov or call 202-245-5898